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diameter of the stem, whereas, in *E. limosum* the stems are largely fistulose. From *E. arvense* it may be distinguished by the first internode of the branches surpassing little if any the length of the corresponding foliage. The anatomical characters still further separate them. In *E. littorale* each fibro-vascular bundle or ridge of the stem is encased in a special endodermis, in *E. arvense* a common endodermis surrounds the exterior of the central cylinder.

If *E. littorale* is really as rare as reported its geographical distribution can only be accounted for on the ground of hybridization. Without having direct proof the author is inclined to consider it a hybrid between *E. arvense* and *E. limosum*; its characters are absolutely intermediate. He agrees with Milde and not with Duval-Jouve in his conclusions.

E. G. B.

Diatomées Fossiles du Japon. J. Brun and J. Tempère. (Reprinted from *Memoires de la Société de Physique et d'Histoire Naturelle de Geneve*. Tome xxx. No. 9.)

The volume is devoted to the calcareous earths of Sendai and Yedo, and consists of seventy-five pages of text accompanied by nine beautifully executed phototype plates embracing 135 figures. Prof. Brun, of the University of Geneva, has so long been known as a standard authority upon the Diatomaceæ, that this work will be welcomed as a valuable contribution to the literature of the subject. It is worthy of note that some of the species figured occur also in the famous Santa Monica earth. Others are found in the Atlantic City fossil deposit recently described in this journal.

C. H. K.

Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

Adonis. H. H. Rusby. (*Drug. Bull.* Nov. 1889, reprinted). Illustrations are given of *A. vernalis*, *A. autumnalis* and *A. æstivalis*.

Algarum ex insula Georgia Australi—Species et genera nova. P. F. Reinsch (*Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesellsch.* vi. 144-156).

New species are described in the genera *Desmarestia*, *Polysiphonia*, *Kalymenia*, *Gracillaria*, *Rhodomenia*, *Delessaria*, *Nito-*

phyllum, *Bonnemaisonia*, *Choreocolax*, *Ptilota* and *Callithamnion*. The following are new genera, each with a single new species: *Chroa*, *Merenia*, *Straggaria*. Collected during the German Transit of Venus Expedition, 1882-'83.

Algen—Brasilien Gesammelten, Bearbeitung der von H. Schenck. M. Mobius. (Hedwigia, xxviii. 309-347; t. X. and XI). 64 species (including one *Chara*) are enumerated and novelties described in the following genera: *Spirocoleus*; *Entophysa*,—a new genus, found in the tissues of *Chara Hornemanni*; *Acetabularia*; *Dictyopteris*; *Gracillaria*.

Bahamas.—The Botany of the. Chas. S. Dolley. (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 130-134, 1889).

On the occasion of presenting for publication a paper entitled "A Provisional List of the Plants of the Bahama Islands," by John Gardiner and L. J. K. Brace, which we shall hope to notice in these columns as soon as it is issued, Professor Dolley remarked on the general character of the Bahaman Flora and its relation to that of Florida and Bermuda. In this connection we would state that Dr. and Mrs. Northrop are now in Bahama, prepared and equipped to obtain extensive collections of both animals and plants. The club may therefore anticipate hearing some account of this exceedingly interesting flora at no very distant day.

Bald Cypress—The. W. P. Wilson. (Forest Leaves, ii. 110, 111, illustrated). This little article includes a discussion upon the nature and functions of "knees," and the figure of the tree, (*Taxodium distichum*) is an exceedingly good one, reproduced from one of Dr. Rothrock's photographs. The theory that the knees are respiratory organs is maintained.

Cochliostema Jacobianum. (Garden, xxxvi. 477, illustrated).

Color Character—The. Edward L. Greene (Pittonia, ii. 35-46; advance sheets).

Professor Greene shows how stable a character color is in certain great groups of plants, and does not approve of naming albino forms.

Contributions Towards a List of the Fauna and Flora of Wet Mountain Valley, Colorado.—II. T. D. A. Cockerell. West Am. Sci. vi. 134-136).

The monocotyledonous plants of the region are here enumerated.

Croton Alabamensis. C. Mohr. (Garden and Forest, ii. 592, fig. 150).

Desmidieer frau Grönland. Robert Boldt. (Bihang till Kongl-Svenska Vet. Akad. Hand. xiii. Afd. III. No. 5, pp. 48; two plates).

This is a list of Greenland Desmidiaceæ, with localities and descriptions of new species in *Euastrum*, *Cosmarium*, *Xanthidium*, and *Staurostrum*. The plates represent fifty-three of the species and forms enumerated. The paper was noted some months since in the "Botanisches Centralblatt," but this number of the "Bihang" has only recently come to us. It contains also a lengthy tabulation by the same author of the geographical distribution of all known arctic Desmids.

Exotic Fungi—Some. M. C. Cooke. (Grevillea, xviii. 34, 35).

Cintracta Patagonica, from Patagonia; *Dendrodochium verticillatum*, from South Carolina, *Hydnum cretaceum*, *Gnomonia coriacea* and *Micropeltis maculata* are described by Dr. Cooke and Mr. Massee.

Eleocharis—The Genus in North America. N. L. Britton. (Journ. N. Y. Mic. Soc. v. 95-111, reprinted).

Dr. Britton has here given us a critical account of the relationships and synonymy of this somewhat difficult genus, with a careful account of the geographical distribution, and a valuable numerical reference to the chief collections of each species and variety. He finds that 40 species are North American, with 36 occurring in the United States, just "double the number known to Dr. Torrey in 1836." The author's conclusions regarding the value of certain characters in classification are important, and are stated in the following sentence: "I am not unaware that histological details have been invoked in the classification of this natural order, and I have been particularly impressed by the extremely minute and laborious researches of Palla as published in Engler's Bot. Jahrb. x. 293, but as the results reached by him appear to me to destroy natural alliances rather than to ascertain them, I have not used the arrangement of the fibro-vascular bundles of the stem as proposed by him, nor, indeed, have I found it necessary to invoke it."

The paper is the result of studies extending over several years,

during which a great number of specimens, both at home and abroad, have been studied. *E. Parishii* is a new species from Agua Caliente, San Diego Co., Cal., No. 1569, Coll. of S. B. Parish.

H. H. R.

Fern Flora of Canada. George Lawson. (Halifax, N. S., 30 pp. small 8vo. illustrated.)

This neat little book is intended for the use of schools, comprising a description of all ferns known to inhabit the Dominion, with localities where they grow. An introductory portion of ten pages is accompanied by illustrations of seventeen genera and will be very helpful to the beginner. Professor Lawson adopts in all cases the oldest specific name, and uses other names than those generally accepted for several genera, notably, *Dennstaedtia* for *Dicksonia punctilobula*. On the whole this is an interesting little book and commends itself to those who are interested in the geographical distribution of ferns, and indeed to all lovers of these plants.

E. G. B.

Ghiesbreght, Augustus B. Explorador de Mexico; Veda y trabajos del Naturalista Belga. Jose N. Roriosa. (La Naturaleza, i, (2d ser. pp. 211-217).

From this grateful tribute to the fifty years of labor of one who has done so much both botanically and zoologically for Mexico, we learn that Auguste Boniface Ghiesbreght was born in Brussels, March 10, 1810. He studied and practiced medicine in Belgium till 1836, when Leopold I. commissioned him and Linden and Funk to investigate the natural history of Mexico. These three accompanied Henri Galeotti in his ascension of the peak of Orizaba in 1838, and made extensive collections at elevations ranging from 9,000 to 12,000 feet. In 1839 they collected extensively at Tabasco and Chiapas, returning to Belgium once a year for three years with extensive collections. Later Ghiesbreght alone visited the "Northern and Southern States, crossed the Cordilleras three times from ocean to ocean, traversed the great Mesa, and ascended the volcanoes of Colima, Jorullo and Cempoaltepec."

He lived at Teapa from 1855 to 1862, making extensive explorations and collections of living and pressed plants which

he took to Belgium. In 1862 he settled at the capital of Chiapas, San Cristobal Las Casas, and made extensive collections of insects, molluscs, orchids, agaves and bromeliads. Many of the latter were transported living to Europe and were described by Lindley in the "Flore des Serres et des Jardins de l'Europe." His collections are scattered through the museums and academies of Belgium, England, France, Switzerland, Germany and Russia.

E. G. B.

Grasses of Mountain Meadows and Deer Parks. F. L. Scribner. (Bull. Agric. Exp. Station, Univ. of Tenn. ii. 59-67, illustrated.

In addition to the material previously given by the author under the title of "The Grasses of Roan Mountain," tables of analyses are here given of several of the grasses mentioned, and a figure of *Danthonia compressa*.

Herbarium and Plant Descriptions Adapted to any Botany. E. T. Nelson (4to., Boston, Allyn & Bacon, 1889, 75 cents).

This is another aid for the ready determination of plants from descriptions, designed to effect at the same time a preservation of the specimen examined. Each plant is assigned four pages. The first contains printed headings to be filled in by the pupil, and the specimen is to be mounted on the third, the folded sheet then serving for a species cover. These sheets are put up in portfolios of fifty.

Hypertrophied Hairs on Ampelopsis. John A. Ryder. (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phil., Part II. 155, 1889).

Prof. Ryder called attention to certain enlarged hairs on the leaves, petioles and tendrils of the Japanese species.

Leguminosæ novæ vel minus cognitæ Austro-Americanæ. I. P. Taubert. (Flora, lxxii. 421-430).

Sellocharis is a new genus related to *Lotus*, and *S. paradoxa* a single species. *Crotalaria Urbaniana*, *Sesbania oligosperma*, *Æschynomene Riedliana*, *Chætocalyx Ilheotica*, *C. Glaziovii*, *Cranocarpus Mezii*, *Galactia Aschersoniana*, *Camptosema pentaphyllum*, *Rhynchosia Schenckii* are newly described. All are from Brazil.

Neillia.—*The North American*, Edward L. Greene. (Pittonia, ii. 25-31.

Professor Greene reviews the history of these shrubs, discusses their relationship to the Asiatic species, from which he concludes they are not to be generically separated, shows that the genus *Physocarpa* is referable to Rafinesque before Maximowicz and gives us valuable notes on the species, which stand as follows: (1) *N. opulifolia* (L.), S. Wats.; (2) *N. capitata* (Pursh), Greene, which is *N. opulifolia* var. *mollis* of the California botany; (3) *N. monogyna* (Torr.), Greene., the *N. Torreyi*, S. Wats., and whose early name we are glad to see restored, and (4) *N. malvacea*, n.sp. from northern Idaho, a remarkable species, differing from the others mentioned from its non-inflated carpels. Besides these, Prof. Greene suspects a fifth species in the plant of the southern Alleghenies, which has not been much collected.

N. L. B.

New York—Annual Report of the State Botanist, made to the Regents of the University, February 25th, 1889. Chas. H. Peck. (From 42d Rep. Mus. Nat. Hist.; pamph. pp. 48; two plates, Albany, 1889).

Mr. Peck reports on the work done in the botanical department of the State Museum of Natural History during the year previous to this date. 268 species were added to the herbarium, of which 108 were new to it, among them *Hieracium præaltum* from Lewis Co.; *Pentstemon lævigatus* from near Rome; *Physalis Peruviana* from Manor, L. I.; *Quercus heterophylla* and *Q. Rudkini* from Staten Island; *Sparganium affine* (so called) from the Adirondack Mts. *Setaria verticillata* and *Apera Spica-venti* from Lansingburgh, and *Equisetum littorale* from Oneida Lake, and the rest fungi, of which the usual large proportion (46 species this time) are described as new. Under "Remarks and Observations" we note *Proserpinaca pectinacea* reported from Manor, L. I., a remarkable form of *Solidago nemoralis* with white rays from Elizabethtown, Essex Co.; *Coreopsis trichosperma*, var. *tenuiloba* from Eastport and Patchogue, L. I.; *Arceuthobium pusillum* from several localities in Chenango County, found by Mr. Coville; a new locality for *Epipactis* in Onondaga Co., an additional note on *Trillium grandiflorum*, var. *variegatum*, and other interesting items. Mr. Peck gives also a review of the New York species of *Clitopilus*, a genus of pileate,

fleshy fungi, enumerating fourteen species, of which eleven are of his own description. As no references to literature are given, we cannot tell from this document how many of them are described here for the first time. N. L. B.

Pecan Tree—*The*. Chas. Mohr. (Garden and Forest, ii. 569, 570).

In this article, which is mostly concerned with the economic value of the tree, we are pleased to note that the author has adopted the name *Hickoria Pecan*.

Pelargonium—*The Horseshoe*. F. L. Sargent. (Pop. Sci. News, xxiii. 181, 182, illustrated).

Pinus Banksiana on the Maine Coast. Edward L. Rand. (Garden and Forest, ii. 579).

A memorandum upon the article published in the BULLETIN of November, 1889, with some additional notes.

River Birch—*The*. (Garden and Forest, ii. 591, fig. 149).

This plate represents a characteristic group of trees of *Betula nigra* in winter, when destitute of foliage.

Species—New or Noteworthy. Edward L. Greene. (Pittonia, ii. 17-24; advance sheets).

The following are described as new: *Aster brickellioides*, var. *glabratus*; *Aplopappus Bloomeri*, var. *Sonnei*; *A. cruentus*; *Grindelia Hendersoni*; *Petasites nivalis*; *Senecio Franciscanus*; *S. ionophyllus*; *S. Gibbonsii*; *Layia hispida*; *Eriophyllum tanacetifolium*; *Prenanthes stricta*; *Mimulus Scouleri*, var. *cæspitosus*; *Eunanus angustifolius*; *Collinsia stricta* and *Monardella discolor*. Many of these were collected by Professor Greene during his exceedingly successful journey of last summer. There are also critical notes on *Scorzonella borealis*, *Malacothrix altissima*, *Mimulus Scouleri*, *Eriodictyon Parryi*, *Thalictrum hesperium* (*S. platycarpum*, Greene) and *Astragalus anemophilus*, with which is joined *A. Miguelensis*.

N. L. B.

Thismia Glaziovii—*Une nouvelle Phanérogame sans Chlorophyll*. V. A. Poulsen. (Revue Bot. i. 549, 550).

A preliminary note on a new saprophytic species of Burmanniaceæ, little more than two inches in height, from humus in a

Brazilian forest. An anatomical study of this interesting plant will soon be published.

Trinidad.—*Annual Report on the Royal Botanic Gardens for* 1888. J. H. Hart. (Pamph. 4to. pp. 41, Gov. Printing Office, Port of Spain, 1889).

Unifolia.—*Geographical Distribution of Western*. Edward L. Greene. (Pittonia, ii. 31-35; advance sheets).

Evidence is adduced to show that *U. sessifolium* has not been found east of the Coast Range, and that *U. stellatum* actually crosses the continent as does *U. racemosum*. More fruiting specimens are called for.

Yucca elata. (Garden and Forest, ii. 568, fig. 146).

Proceedings of the Club.

The regular meeting of the Club was held at Columbia College, Dec. 10th, the Vice-President in the chair and twenty-two persons present.

An Amendment to the Constitution was adopted, making the regular meetings of the Club twice a month. The announced lecture of the evening "Fungus Diseases of the Cranberry," by Professor Byron D. Halsted was then delivered. The substance of his remarks was as follows:

The minute, red galls upon the cranberry leaves, stems, flowers and fruit, are caused by a unicellular fungus known as *Synchytrium Vaccinii*, Th. It is probably at present confined to the Marian Bog, near Brown's Mill, Burlington County, New Jersey. The following additional members of the Ericaceæ are hosts to this gall fungus: *Rhododendron viscosum*, *Kalmia angustifolia*, *Clethra alnifolia*, *Cassandra calyculata*, *Gaylussacia resinosa* and *Gaultheria procumbens*, in all of which the fungus-bearing cell of each gall is much alike, but in the galls themselves there is a wide variation upon the different hosts. These plants are infested only when within reach of the bog water and above the high tide or flood mark no galls are to be found. In a portion of the bog, cut off by a railroad grade with no waterway through it, there were no galls. The upper portion of the bog is upon two streams which join near its middle.